

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendments the substitute specification has been amended on pages 7, 8 and 26, claim 13 has been cancelled and claims 1, 14, 16, 18 and 25 have been amended. Thus, claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-12, 14-19, 21, and 23-26 are in the application.

The specification was objected to in the outstanding Office Action as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Correction was required by using the word monolithically, which appears in claims 1, 14 and 15, in the specification to conform the language of the specification and the claims. Responsive to this requirement, by the above amendments the specification has been amended to include use of the expression "monolithically". These changes do not introduce new matter into the specification since the original disclosure in the specification and drawings supports the use of the expression "monolithically" as used in the claims.

Claim 13 was objected to in the Office Action as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but it was stated that the claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Responsive to this indication of allowable subject matter, by the above amendments claim 13 has been cancelled and the limitations thereof have been added to independent claim 1 as well as to the other independent claims, claims 14, 16, 18 and 25. In view of these changes, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are in condition for allowance.

Claims 12, 3, 5, 6, 8-12, 14, 21 and 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by FR 2626463 A1 as stated on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

Claims 15 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over FR 2626463 A1 in view of Atkinson, et al., U.S. 2002/0087216 A1 as stated on page 4 of the Office Action. While Applicants take issue with the propriety of the rejections, it is respectfully submitted that these issues have been rendered moot in view of the incorporation of the allowable subject matter of claim 13 into the respective independent claims as referred to above.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the claims as amended is requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement is filed herewith. A Petition for Extension of Time, to permit the timely filing of this Amendment is also filed herewith.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 183.39735AX5) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



/Ronald J. Shore/
Ronald J. Shore
Registration No. 28,577
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

RJS/kmh